

**AMENDMENT**

**In the Claims:**

1. (Previously presented). A method for controlling the microbial contamination of drinking water produced by condensation comprising:
  - providing a container of zeolite, wherein the zeolite contain ions; and
  - passing the drinking water produced by condensation through the container of zeolite such that at least one ion is released.
2. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the zeolite is a clinoptilolite.
3. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the method further comprises a step of sizing the clinoptilolite to with the range of about 1 to about 10 mm.
4. (Previously presented). The method as set further in claim 3, wherein the method further comprises a step of washing the clinoptilolite with distilled water.
5. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the method further comprises a step of adjusting the pH of the clinoptilolite to within the range of about 6.0 to about 8.0.
6. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein the method further comprises a step of activating the clinoptilolite by hydrothermal ion exchange.
7. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein the activation of the clinoptilolite is by boiling in a solution containing zinc.

8. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein the solution containing zinc comprises a solution of water and zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

9. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the solution containing the zinc comprises water and  $ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ .

10. (Previously presented). The method as forth in claim 9, wherein the concentration of the solution of water and  $ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$  is in the range of about 1 to about 10 percent by weight  $ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ .

11. (Previously presented). The method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the boiling in a solution of  $ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$  is continued within the range of about 2 and about 15 hours.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously presented). A method of preparing a composition for controlling the microbial contamination of drinking water produced by condensation comprising boiling a zeolite having at least one ion in a solution containing zinc compound.

18. (Previously presented). The method of claim 17 wherein the zeolite is a clinoptilolite.

19. (Previously presented). The method of claim 18 wherein the boiling is for a time in the range of about 1 to about 10 hours.

20. (Previously presented). The method of claim 18 wherein the zinc compound is selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

21. (Previously presented). The method of claim 18 wherein the zinc compound is  $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

22. (Previously presented). The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of sizing the clinoptilolite to with the range of about 1 to about 10 mm.

23. (Previously presented). The method of claim 22, wherein the method further comprises a step of washing the clinoptilolite with distilled water.

24. (Previously presented). The method of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises a step of adjusting the pH of the clinoptilolite to within the range of about 6.0 to about 8.0.

25. (Previously presented). The method of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises a step of activating the clinoptilolite by hydrothermal ion exchange.

26. (Previously presented). The method of claim 23, wherein the activation by hydrothermal ion exchange of the clinoptilolite is by boiling in a solution containing zinc.

27. (Previously presented). The method of claim 24, wherein the solution containing zinc comprises a solution of water and a zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc sulfate, zinc chloride, and zinc oxide.

28. (Previously presented). The method of claim 25, wherein the solution containing zinc comprises water and ZnSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O.

29. (Previously presented). The method of claim 26, wherein the concentration of the water and ZnSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O is in the range of about 1 and about 10 percent by weight ZnSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O.